ROTC units represent at Army Ten Miler

Dickinson, Boulder narrowly miss besting Academy

Field Report

Marquette University

More than 16,000 participants from around the world turned out in October for the 20th Anniversary running of the Army Ten Miler, a road race that starts and finishes at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

Army ROTC teams were bested this year by the U.S. Military Academy in the ROTC Division, although the point difference based on the cumulative time of the top four finishers hwas slim. Dickinson Army ROTC finished 19th overall with 4:01:10, just minutes behind the West Point team, which finished 14th overall with 3:51:42.

The University of Colorado - Boulder ran to a 3rd Place finish in the ROTC Division, 24th overall with 4:02:58 – less than a minute behind Dickinson. In all, 41 teams signed up in the division; the top ROTC finisher from Western Region was Cadet John Campbell from Western Kentucky University with a personal time of 57:46.

Marquette Joins the Fray

Marquette University's Army ROTC unit sent a team to compete in the event for the first time. Cadets Devin Barta, Tom Dolce, Mike Mencarini and Dan Terbilox comprised the team.

"We registered for the event in May, and spent the first six weeks of the semester running all over Milwaukee," Mencarini said. The team's travel was funded by the university's student government and ROTC.

The Marquette team showed up to compete, but had time to take a tour of the nation's military headquarters – the Pentagon.

"Our tour took us through the halls of the headquarters of the Department of Defense, past the artwork and displays that illustrate military history and tradition. We even caught a glimpse of Secretary (Donald) Rumsfeld down one of the halls," Mencarini said.

"The day of the race was full of excitement and activity. Around 16,000 people were running that morning. The race started and finished at the Pentagon, and there was a mob of people lined up on the highway ready to start running. The route passed by some of the more famous Washington landmarks,

See Ten, Page 3

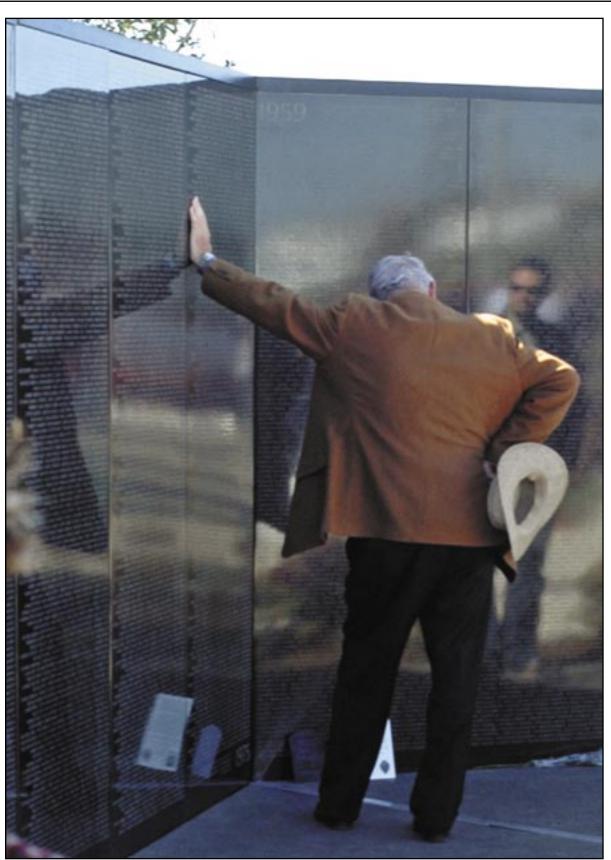


Photo by Nick Cenegy - The Houstonian (Used by Permission)

Wall of Memories

A citizen remembers at the Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall in Huntsville, Texas, in November. Cadets from Sam Houston State University's Bearkat Battalion volunteered to help with the logistics of the memorial's visit. Two half-size replicas of the wall travel the country from April to November each year, visiting about 50 locations. To schedule the wall for a visit to your town or to check the travel schedule, surf to http://www.themovingwall.org.

By Steven Corbett

Commander

Where did the year go? In the infancy of every year, we usually ponder aloud about the previous year's sudden demise. It normally takes us three months to stop writing the previous year's date. For me, and for my family, this was not the case with 2004. I know exactly where the year went, because my wife was deployed to Iraq in January 2004 and returned in mid-January 2005. So ... 2004 did not whoosh by for us. It plodded each long painful day at a time, like an arthritic old man making his way up stairs, one aching step at a time.

The good news is that she is home, and her small Army Reserve unit made it back intact to their homes and loved ones. This column is not about her, or the Corbett



Family, or her unit. It is about the tens of thousands of other Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines and Coast Guardsmen who continue to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan. Although I am personally sleeping more soundly, families across America continue to maintain their vigils for their loved ones.

I cannot "order" anyone to support or even oppose the war in the Middle East. I can urge those of us who are left behind to solidly support those who have answered our Nation's call and are serving there. I think I am on pretty solid ground when I say that every Senior and Junior ROTC Battalion in the Western Region knows someone who is deployed. A cadre member, a graduate, sibling of a student, a parent – someone associated with every subordinate organization within this command is in harms way and deserves our support, respect and at the very least, our kind thoughts for their well-being and safekeeping.

There are innumerable ways to support our troops -- and most of them are of greater material benefit than a yellow ribbon magnet on one's car. The Army Home Page has a link at http://www.army.mil/

howyoucanhelp that offers many venues of support for the public-atlarge. I believe however, that every battalion can and should personalize their support of our fellow Americans who are deployed. I urge all of you to consider a "Special Project" to support a serviceman or woman who is deployed. Letters, packages and little pieces of home go a very long way to making a soldier's day more endurable, to making the pressures and dangers of Iraq and Afghanistan more bearable. I look forward to learning about your school's projects as I travel through the Region, and will help to "cross-fertilize" good ideas.

We must keep our comrades and loved ones uppermost in our minds through active, organized and supportive actions. I guarantee that we are uppermost in their minds.

Officer's service reveals road map for the rest of us

By Maj. Matthew Whitney *Brigham Young University*

The recent death of Capt. Bill Jacobsen, a former cadet from Brigham Young University, serves as a sober reminder to us all of the importance of our duty and the gravity of our callings as present and future officers. As he is a former cadet, his passing is of special relevance to all cadets who will travel a similar path to leadership and excellence.

Bill was commissioned in June of 1998 and with his wife, Rikka, and two sons, began their career as an Army Family. Over the next five years, they traveled from Utah to posts in Georgia and Kentucky, where he served as an Infantry Platoon Leader. Ultimately, Jacobsen was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, where he commanded A Company, 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment 25th Infantry Division, a Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

When his Brigade was deployed in October 2004, Bill's greatest hope was to ensure that all 174 of his soldiers came home safely

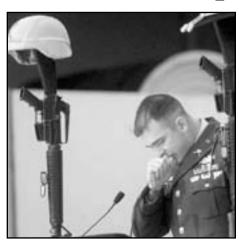


Photo by Ron Soliman - The Olympia (Used by Permission)

Capt. David Barbuto pays tribute to Capt. Bill Jacobsen at a memorial service for six Fort Lewis soldiers killed in an explosion in December in a dining hall in Mosul, Iraq.

and accomplished the mission. While in Iraq, he quickly earned the respect of his soldiers, the Iraqi people, and even the media.

Once, when his unit took fire, Jacobsen took charge and quickly dispatched the would-be attacker. Yet at other times, he ensured they never used force in a cavalier manner. He was always concerned about the message he was sending the Iraqi people.

During his six short weeks in Iraq, Jacobsen exhibited exactly the type of foresight and courage we hope to develop in all officers.

Five days before Christmas, Jacobsen had the opportunity to speak with his wife on the telephone.

A few days before that, he was able to use a web-camera to wave to his children. He was gratified to know that the presents he had sent had safely arrived under the Christmas tree. But on the Dec. 21, the same day as his ninth wedding anniversary, a man dressed as an Iraqi soldier walked into the mess hall at Forward Operating Base Marez, near Mosul, and detonated a suicide bomb, killing Jacobsen and 21 others.

Let us ensure that the death of this officer instills in us a desire to learn from him -- to be like him -- and to courageously enter the battle as he did, with high moral principle, humanity and boldness.

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

Seattle University

Audrey Hudgins, professor of military science, was promoted to lieutenant colonel Dec. 1.

Sean McKeague, assistant professor of military science, was promoted to major on Jan. 1.

Auburn University

Karl Krievins, assistant professor of military science, was promoted to major Nov. 1.

RESERVE THIS EMPTY SPACE!

To have your people recognized in the *Goldbar Leader*, contact the editor at (253) 967-7473 or via e-mail at jeremy.obryan@us.army. mil.



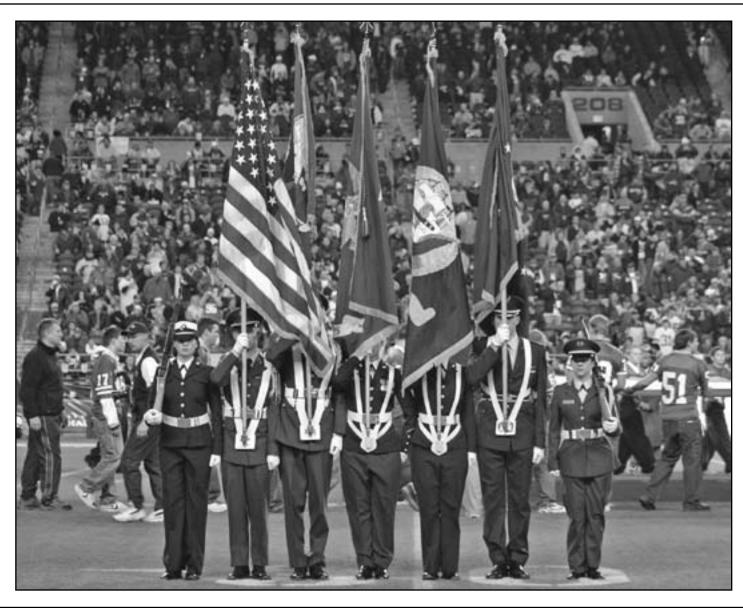
Col. Steven R. Corbett

Commander

Western Region, U.S Army Cadet Command

This Army-funded newspaper is an authorized publication for the members of the U.S. Army and the Reserve Officer's Training Corps. Contents of the *Goldbar Leader* and *Warrior Leader* newspapers are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of this publication is the property of the U.S. Army Cadet Command Western Region Public Affairs Office, and is printed under exclusive written contract in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1. Printed circulation is about 5,500. Submission of stories and photos by Western Region headquarters, ROTC, and JROTC organizations is encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit all submitted material based on space limitations and command policy. Submissions, letters, and inquiries should be addressed to: HQ Western Region, U.S. Army Cadet Command, ATTN: ATOW-ZP (PAO), Box 339500, Fort Lewis, WA, 98433-9500. Additional contact via phone, fax, and e-mail is acceptable. Voice: (253) 967-7473; Fax: (253) 967-9581; E-mail: jeremy.obryan@us.army.mil.

Public Affairs Officer -- Bob Rosenburgh Editor, Deputy PAO -- Jeremy O'Bryan



Adding Color

A joint cadet color guard from the University of Washington's Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force ROTC programs posted the colors at the Cowboys vs.
Seahawks game Dec. 6 in Seattle. Led by Army Cadet Peter Aredt, the guard included Army Cadets Jason Holts and Jennifer Tillotson, Midshipman Alea Reidinger, Marine Sgt. Eryn Redmon, and Air Force Cadet Brandon Origna. After posting the colors, the cadets were invited to stay for the game.

Courtesy Photo

Ten, from Page 1

and made the run very scenic and enjoyable. After crossing the Arlington bridge and passing by the Lincoln Memorial, runners looped around the Kennedy Center, and then ran along the Mall past the WWII Memorial and the Washington Monument down to the Capitol. There, runners turned back toward the Potomac, and the last leg of the race, crossed the bridge into Virginia and ended at the Pentagon.

"After crossing the finish line, runners received a commemorative coin signifying the 20th anniversary of the race," Mencarini said. "Many of the cadets running that morning met afterwards at Army Cadet Command's tent, which was set up for all the different ROTC units from schools across the country.

"Running the Army Ten-Miler was an enjoyable and rewarding experience full of camaraderie and espirit-de-corps," Mencarini explained. "We are planning on sending another team to the Ten Miler next year represent the Golden Eagle Battalion."

The team from Marquette finished 26th in their division, 209th overall, with 5:13:08.

The Ten Miler is open to teams and individuals, military or civilian. Registration for the 2005 event opens in April. Surf to http://www.armytenmiler.com.

UNM cadets medal in Duke City Marathon

By Cadet Trinidad Chavez

University of New Mexico

The University of New Mexico's ROTC battalion took two of the top three spots in the local Duke City Marathon.

On a frigid Sunday morning, with the vast majority of the Albuquerque population still lying warm in their beds, two teams from the University of New Mexico Army ROTC battalion were preparing themselves mentally to negotiate the Annual Duke City Marathon Relay.

UNM fielded two teams this year, each one packed with talent and heart. Practices were early, long and grueling. Each team ran a total of 26.2 miles in the marathon. The legs varied from 4.2 to 6.2 miles in length.

From the onset it was clear that both teams came to win. Army ROTC TEAM 1 was consisted of Cadets John Brasher, Roger Martin, Daryl Murton, Aaron Pennington and John Gomez. They jumped out to an early lead over all other relay teams.

Army ROTC TEAM 2 consisted of Cadets Cody Akin, Sonia Marinelarena, Chris Ostberg, Brett Perry and Adam Loomis, who trailed close behind, staying within striking distance.

Throughout the race, both teams ran courageously and gave it their all. At the half way marker it was still anyone's race. Falling back from their stablemates by eight minutes, TEAM 2 showed grit by rallying back valiantly to cut the margin of advantage to only four minutes. But four minutes was not enough. TEAM 1 had built up enough of a lead to repel any last minute heroics by any team in pursuit.

After the race, when all the times were calculated and the placements deciphered, it was official that the two UNM Army ROTC teams placed 1st and 3rd respectively in the 20-29 year old male relay division. The winning team posted a time of three hours and three minutes, while their comrades trailed close behind with a time of three hours and seven minutes.

This marks the second year in a row in which the UNM Army ROTC has won this marathon.

"Although there was over 5,000 runners, I felt confident that both teams had a good chance to medal, said Lt. Col. Anna Lucero, professor of military science, when asked after the race how she felt about her cadet's performance. "I'm very proud of each and every one of them and I'm happy to see their hard work and dedication paid off."

What did *your* battalion do today? *Get recognized!*Call the Goldbar Leader editor at (253) 967-7473.



ROTC news

Food Drive

The Rebel Battalion of South High School in Bakersfield, Calif., gave canned food, frozen turkey, beverages and other food items to needy families for the holiday season. All in all, the Rebel Battalion worked together to feed 51 needy families. The cadets gathered hundreds of canned food items and organized the battalion headquarters so the food could be issued quickly and in an organized manner. Some of the food given out that day actually went to the families of Rebel Battalion cadets. The cadets at South High take part in this event annualy. (Submitted by Cadet Master Sgt. Tom Madden)

Cowtown Classic

The entire Fort Worth, Texas, corps of cadets -- 12 units in all -- plus instructors and volunteers, turned out for the 5th Annual Cowtown Classic Invitational Skills Competition. Out of more than 800 competing cadets from 37 high schools and all branches of service, The Colony High School JROTC, The Colony, Texas, led by Lt. Col. Bill White, was named 2005 Grand Champion. (Submitted by Lt. Col. Luther Berry)

Veteran's Dinner

More than 50 local veterans and their families from Manteca, Calif., came to dinner – and over 100 local families came to show their support for them at Manteca High School's annual event to honor vets from all U.S. military services. Battalion cadet staff planned the event; Cadet Lt. Col. Teri Giles and Cadet Maj. Hunter Hutcheson used the proceeds from the dinner to purchase a stand of trees for planting on Arbor Day and for subsequent dedication -- complete with plaques -- to local veterans. (Submitted by First Sgt. Bo Svoboda)

Right: Cadet Sasha Cook, a junior at Hillcrest High School in Springfield, Mo., presents a gift to a veteran during a visit to a local veteran's home. Cadet Jonathan Haselden said "value of our visit is the fact that we interact and let the veterans know we truly appreciate them."



Cadets at Crosby High School in Crosby, Texas, have taken up several new projects, one of them being an Adopt-a-Highway effort. Maj. Quentin Cadet Sgt. Ria Terry, one of 20 Beaumont Farr and Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Meadows estab- High School JROTC students engaging in lished the JROTC program there in January 2004. service learning projects, reads to kids in Don't Mess With Texas!





St. Louis, Mo.

Flandreau students help launch D.C. museum

By Muriel YoungBear

Flandreau Indian School

FLANDREAU, S.D. -- The opening of The Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C. in September not only brought natives from every corner of the Western Hemisphere, but also was the largest gathering of native peoples in recent history.

Five of the Native Americans present were JROTC cadets from Flandreau Indian School on hand to participate in the museum's opening ceremonies.

Carly Archambeau, Kara Diserly, Donna Good Shield, Oleta White Eyes and Edmond Frank were among those who participated in the parade and were given the privilege to march in the Native Nation Procession, accompanied by Major Hoskins.

Ronald and Lillian Good Eagle also had the Young Voice Singers: Calvin Jilot, Kenny Walker, Jace Reville, Kevin Pederson and Willis Davenport, who performed as a drum group.

During the Flandreau students' stay in Washington, D.C, they were able to meet Native Americans from all over North America.

Kara Diserly said she "felt proud to be Native American and to see so many others from different back rounds."

The students were also one of few to tour the museum opening day. Reservations for the exhibit are booked for months. Lillian Good Eagle describes the museum to be "far more realistic and true to Natives" than any other she has seen.

Through the years, our Native American culture has been portrayed in textbooks in narrow or inaccurate ways. Our achievements, our hardships and our traditions are what make all Native American people great. Our displays in numerous other museums portray our accomplishments only through the arts. We are also people with character, with rich heritage and can teach great lessons through our stories, talents and visions of this world.

The actual museum's collection consists of more than 800,000 Native American art and cultural objects,



Cadets Kara Diserly, Carly Archambeau and Oleta White Eyes pose for a photograph in native dress on the Capitol Mall in Washington D.C. The students, from Flandreau Indian School, participated in the opening ceremonies at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American In-

as well as the photographic archive of 125,000 images, representing more than 1,000 indigenous communities in the Western Hemisphere. About 70 percent of the collection comes from North America. The museum's director, W. Richard West Jr., is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma.

Every artifact on display was reviewed and inspected by a native committee panel. Unlike at other museums, natives have appropriately taken roles in conceptualizing, planning, designing, supporting and directing the museum.

Flandreau Indian School, situated on the east flank of South Dakota, just miles from its border with Minnesota, was founded in 1871 as a Christian mission to Native Americans. Today it is the oldest continually operated federal Indian boarding school maintained by the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the U.S. Department of the Interior, and is the only non-reservation high school in the territory.

Illinois cadets practice service on mission trip

Cadet Julie McIntire Wheaton College

More than 22 people - cadets and cadre included - trekked for 34 hours across the Midwest from Illinois to Texas in January to provide a crucial service to people less fortunate. The Rolling Thunder Battalion's annual mission trip is, according to Lt. Col. Scott Buhmann, Wheaton College professor of military science, "the single most important volunteer service activity all year for local cadets."

This year, from Jan. 1-8, cadets from Wheaton, Olivet Nazarene University, Lewis University, Benedictine University and the University of St. Francis pulled together with cadre and a local civilian building contractor to pool resources with Kilgore Church of the Nazarene in Kilgore, a small, east-Texas town, to perform tasks like installing new doors, porches, handicap ramps and handrails, installing new plumbing and a new shower,

repairing a ceiling, installing shelves, and repairing roofs. The team worked hard for four straight days and completed

five projects that directly benefited the homes of five elderly widows who had all been on a waiting list for assistance for

"I deeply believe that if we want to prepare young people to serve their country as officers in the Army, we should get them accustomed to serving others whenever possible," said

"The trip is an excellent leadership training tool from an Army operations perspective as well."



While cadre attend the trip to work and to be responsible from a legal standpoint, cadets actively plan, organize, execute, review, and follow up. The idea of engineering such large undertakings came from Cadet Stephen Gieser,

currently a senior at Wheaton, back when he was a sophomore. Even the idea and initial momentum came from cadets.

"I am very proud of them," said Buhmann. 'The team of 22 people -- 17 cadets from five schools, four cadre, and a local contractor from my church, without whom we would never have been able to do so much so quickly and so well -- each served selflessly and from the heart."

To mark the trip as a true Christian mission, the plan was not just to work, but offer a witness to how faith can affect people's lives.

> Not only did the team impact the local community by repairing homes, but they also worked with the youth and adult members of the Church of the Nazarene.

> > The team members even led a Sunday evening church service, as well as the youth group and adult Wednesday night services,

showing first-hand the Army values of leadership, and inspiring the youth to be selfless servants.

In turn the church provided almost all of the meals for the team and put them up in the building. Shower facilities weren't available in the church building, so nearby Kilgore College offered their fitness facilities.

The trip cost each volunteer about \$225, yet they managed to save enough money to donate a gift to the church's youth ministry and outreach -- a media cart, complete with laptop, projector and sound system.

The greatest accomplishment, according to some cadets, was sharing their faith and "the Gospel of Christ" with the community of Kilgore.

This mission trip was the third annual Rolling Thunder outreach trip. The past two years, the Rolling Thunder has worked for Habitat for Humanity in Kentucky and Alabama. This trip was first the vision of cadet Steve Gieser, who is responsible for turning his dream into what is now the major annual service project of the Rolling Thunder Battalion.

(The author, a sophomore cadet, was also a primary

organizer and leader of the trip. -Ed.)

At top: Olivet Nazarene University Cadet Matt Boersema mixes cement.

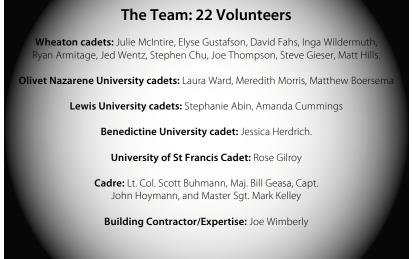
Left: Cadets Matt Hills from Wheaton College (left) and Boersema replace a door on a home in Kilgore, Texas, while on the Rolling Thunder Battalion's annual mission trip, which took place Jan. 1-8.

Photos by Cadet Inga Wildermuth





Stephanie Abin from Lewis University (above) and Joe Thompson from Wheaton College repair a home in Kilgore, Texas. Cadets were led in their work by friend of the Rolling Thunder Battalion and building contractor Joe Wimberly. The trip, however, was planned and executed entirely by cadets as an Army leadership and operations training opportunity.



RANGER CHALLENGE WRAP

Iowa team finishes 2nd in Midwestern challenge

Field Report

University of Iowa

The University of Iowa put together a joint Ranger Challenge team – comprised of both Army and Air Force cadets -- that competed against several other ROTC programs in the Midwest.

Two Ranger Challenge teams from the University of Iowa participated in the 11th Brigade Ranger Challenge competition hosted by Iowa State University at Camp Dodge. By the end of the competition Team Black placed 2nd and Team Gold placed 11th out of 15 teams from various Midwestern universities.

The competition, which is similar to adventure racing, is dubbed "15 Hours of Pain." It started 6 a.m. and concluded the same evening with a closing ceremony.

Teams consisting of nine members each, participate in eight events throughout the day attempting to score the most points by hitting targets or achieving the best time on a given event. The eight events are Army Physical Fitness Test, marksmanship, one-rope bridge, hand grenade assault course, orienteering, weapons assembly/ disassembly, 10 kilometer road march, and a surprise event.

The University of Iowa teams consisted of both Army and Air Force ROTC cadets. During the awards ceremony Team Black was recognized for the highest basic rifle marksmanship team score, Team Gold's Cadet Jeffery Pottratz had a perfect score on his M-16 record fire with two rounds in the center of each of ten targets. Team Black's Cadet Matthew Young had a perfect score of 300 points on the disassembly and assembly of the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon. Accolades should also be given to Steve Hummel for carrying two 25 pound rucksacks for a majority of the 10K road march.

The teams received a great deal of university support throughout the train-up, competition and recovery for this event. Alumni provided donations for energy food and team shirts. Others provided items of inspiration and motivation.

Team Black: Ruben Rangel (Team Captain), Tyler Rund (Asst Capt.), Matthew Young (Asst Capt.), Nick Appel, Matt Dieterich, Stephen Hummel, Dillon Keifer, Collin McKinley, and Ken Wall

Team Gold: Stephen Gauger (Team Captain), Pat Akers (Asst Capt.), Mark Omundson (Asst Capt.), Bobby Baythavong, Stephen Grabo, Thomas Heidenreich, Jeffery Pottratz, John Powers, and Briceson Tish

Team Coaches: Maj. David Pinter, Staff Sgt. Ty Ruiz, and Cadet Adam Stoddard



Photos by Don Ryan

Nurse Cadet Jessica Patterson of Brigham Young University finishing just ahead of Cadets Albert Park and Jeff Linzey of California State University-Fullerton.

BYU, Utah State take top honors out west

By Don Ryan *14th Brigade*

Tactical road marches, concurrent training and MRE's were issues that ran this year's Ranger Challenge at the 14th Brigade. Schools from Arizona, California, Utah and Nevada each brought one co-ed team to the challenge.

This year's event was designed to place the teams in a tactical environment during the entire competition. Events were placed in training areas with the idea that cadets would complete a tactical road march to each

event. Upon arriving at each event, cadets would establish a perimeter and conduct concurrent training until it was their turn to compete.

The first event began on Friday at 5:30 a.m. with all cadets completing the APFT. Brigham Young University took the early lead. The top scorers in APFT belonged to Nurse Cadet Sarah Merritt from University of California-Davis with a 369 and Cadet George Nishiguchi from California State University-Fullerton with a 387.

Next, teams moved to either the Rope Bridge or the Obstacle Course. Utah State University, Southern Utah University, and Brigham Young University took the top spots at the Rope Bridge.

Cadets Desjardens, She ta Clara University help of the obstacle course.



Cadets Desjardens, Shehic, and Sherbo from Santa Clara University help their teammates over part of the obstacle course.

California State University-Fresno and University of Utah completed the Obstacle Course the fastest with the least penalties.

On the final day teams began with the Orienteering Course and finished with the 10K road March. Several schools did very well on the Orienteering Course, but Arizona State University took first place. The 10K Road March began around noon for the first group of schools and by the time it was over, Weber State University and University of California-Davis were on top. With family members and fellow cadets at the finish line, teams were cheered on to finish strong. When all

events were over, cadets had marched about 25 miles.

The awards ceremony ended the Ranger Challenge with trophies going to the top three winners from large schools. First place went to Brigham Young University, 2nd place to Weber State University, and 3rd place to University of Utah.

Awards were also given to winners from small schools. First place went to Utah State University, 2nd place to Claremont McKenna College, and 3rd place to California State University-Fresno.

The spirit award was given to the University of San Francisco for showing the most heart, teamwork and spirit throughout the competition.



A little jumpy

Maj. Mark Chappelle, University of Oregon's MS I advisor, evaluates the standing long jump during the Department of Military Science's 2nd Annual Fitness Challenge. The challenge, open to all university faculty and students, not only provides ROTC visibility on campus, but provides good old fashioned competition as well. More than 40 people participated in 10 events, from push-ups and sit-ups to a basketball free throw.

Courtesy Photo





Nurses witness: leadership, not just medicine, saves lives

By Maj. Lisa Finley

University of Missouri, Kansas City

When I talk with nursing students, they often ask, "Just what is it that makes Army nursing different than what we do? What is Army life like? Would you do it again?"

In my role as Nurse Counselor at the University of Missouri at Kansas City, I talk to prospective Army ROTC nursing cadets and faculty alike. This fall, instead of telling them what Army life is like, we thought it would be better to show them. So, we did.

We formed a steering committee comprised of ROTC cadre and Student Nurses Organization representatives to build the partnership between the nursing students and ROTC.

The input of the student nurses was the catalyst for hosting them at our Fall FTX. They really wanted to experience first-hand "just what it is you all do out in the field. And why you train this way."

Maj. John Drew and I suggested a program that incorporated an introduction to leadership training and skills using medical themes. The proposed event included touring Fort Leavenworth and Munson Army Health Clinic, land navigation training and practical exercise, and Field Leader Reaction Course type lanes. The tour gave a glimpse into Army life and hospital operations. The FLRC lanes highlighted the leadership and problem solving skills that mirrored the nursing process, with the Green touch to it.

The SNO representives provided great input as to what they would value most from this type of experience. To emulate ROTC's team experience, they also wanted to have some type of 'field uniform' of their own. So they designed a T-shirt that emphasized the partnership between the nurses and ROTC with the slogan, "Leadership Saves Lives."

The Fall FTX was an excellent venue to give the nursing students a first-hand experience with land navigation, Army life, and leadership training. They got to experience a meal in the field with the ROTC cadets.

Not only was the event successful. but before the trip was finished the nursing students were planning their participation in the next FTX, expanding it into a full day and challenging their faculty to compete in the events. They also plan to incorporate the FLRC lanes in their Spring Health Fair.

ROTC provides self-perspective

By Maj. Gary Thompson

Wisconsin National Guard

Legend has it that more than two thousand years ago the Oracle of Delphi admonished Socrates to "know thyself." Those two words have guided teachers and students ever since. They are the first step in self-improvement, and a foundation of Army leadership training.

"The best thing about ROTC is that it really has taught me about who I am," says Cadet Cara Borchardt. "ROTC puts you in an environment that is not always within your comfort zone and makes you realize the type of person you are or aren't."

Borchardt is set to graduate from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point in May with a Health Promotion/ Wellness Major and a minor in Military Science. She will receive her commission as a Second Lieutenant and plans to serve with the Wisconsin Army National Guard -- joining 35 years of Pointer Battalion alumni serving in America's armed forces.

"I feel ROTC has helped me in the College of Professional Studies," Borchardt said. "It has taught me how to be a leader and taught me valuable skills that I will need."

Past graduates have applied their training in the civilian and military worlds. For instance, Capt. Mark Jacoboski, a 1987 graduate, served at Fort Lewis, Wash., and Camp Humphreys, Korea, before leaving active duty in 1992. Today he applies his education and experiences as a Signal Corps officer for Lands End Corporation in Dodgeville, Wis.

It all starts with a basic leadership principle that calls for all cadets and officers to "know yourself and seek self-improvement."

"I feel my military experience has cultivated a strong work ethic and helped me develop personal skills," Borchardt said. "ROTC identifies your strengths and weaknesses allowing you to shape yourself into the person you want to become."

MARCH: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Photo by Cpl. Benjamin Cossel

Spc. Amanda Graves, 1st Cavalry Division, holds her company's guidon prior to a farewell ceremony for a portion of her unit at Camp Taji, Iraq.



Photo by Cpl. Benjamin Cossel

Sgt. Melinda Lauderdale, 101st Airborne Division, gears up for a flight on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicpoter near Taji, Irag.



Photo by Master Sgt. Michael Best

Maj. Elvira Brown, 1st Cavalry Division, hands over supplies for an Iraqi school in Taji, Iraq.

The struggle of women to possess human rights equal to those of men has been raging in America since long before the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, passed and ratified in 1920, gave women the right to vote.

Women in the U.S. Army today -- active, guard and Reserve -- number more than 164,000. That's like the population of Amarillio, Texas; Dayton, Ohio; Tempe, Az; or Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

1777: ABIGAIL ADAMS, WIFE OF SECOND AMERICAN PRESIDENT JOHN ADAMS, WRITES THAT WOMEN "WILL NOT HOLD THEMSELVES BOUND TO ANY LAWS IN WHICH WE HAVE NO VOICE."

1826: The first public high schools for girls open in New York and Boston

1833: OBERLIN COLLEGE IN OHIO IS THE FIRST COEDUCATIONAL COLLEGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

1838: MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE IN MASSACHUSETTS IS ESTABLISHED AS FIRST COLLEGE FOR WOMEN.

1850: Women are granted the right to own land in a state (Oregon).

1920: 19TH AMENDMENT IS PASSED AND RATIFIED.

1966: NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN IS FOUNDED

1978: MARY CLARKE IS THE FIRST WOMAN PROMOTED TO MAJOR GENERAL IN THE U.S. ARMY

1980: President Jimmy Carter in March establishes Women's History Week.

1981: SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR IS THE FIRST WOMAN APPOINTED AS A JUSTICE TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT

1997: MADELEINE ALBRIGHT BECOMES THE HIGHEST-RANKING WOMAN EVER IN U.S. GOVERNMENT.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Darren Heussel

Lt. Col. Pamla Keeton, Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan, visits children at the Indira Ghandi Children's Hospital in Kabul.



Photo by Sgt. Jeremy Clawson

Spc. Jennifer Raszynski from the Herat Provisional Reconstruction Team, North Carolina National Guard, visits an orphanage in the Afghanistan town to deliver supplies and make friends.



Photo by Brian Christians

Spc. Erica Douna, a soldier from the 42nd Civil Support Team, North Carolina National Guard, checks for chemical and biological agents during training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.